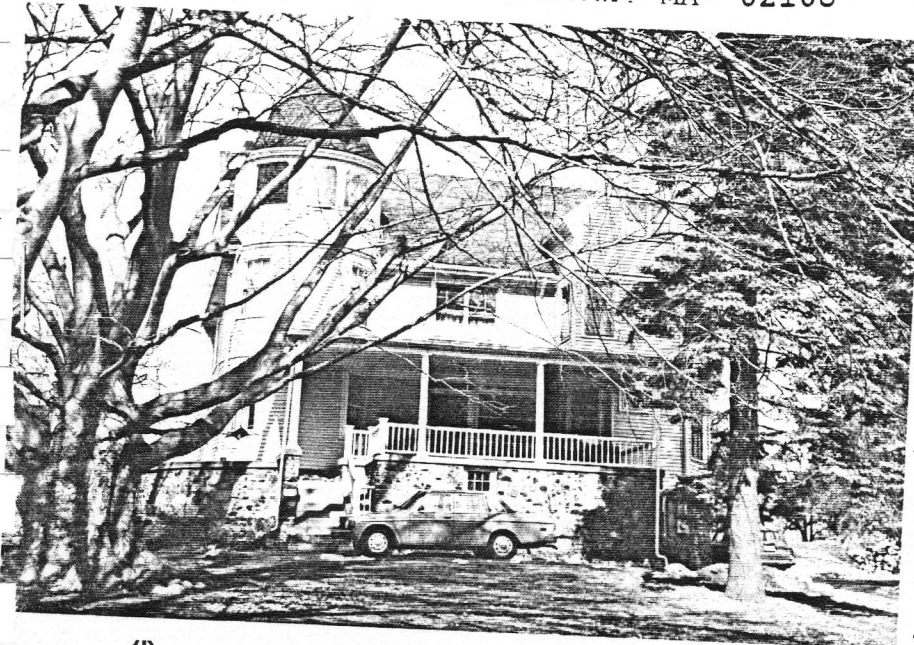


FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
H	371



wn Lexington
Address 16 Oakland Street
Historic Name Edmund K. Houghton House

se: Present residential
Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1888
Source Hudson, II, p. 309

Style Queen Anne

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric aluminum siding

Outbuildings _____

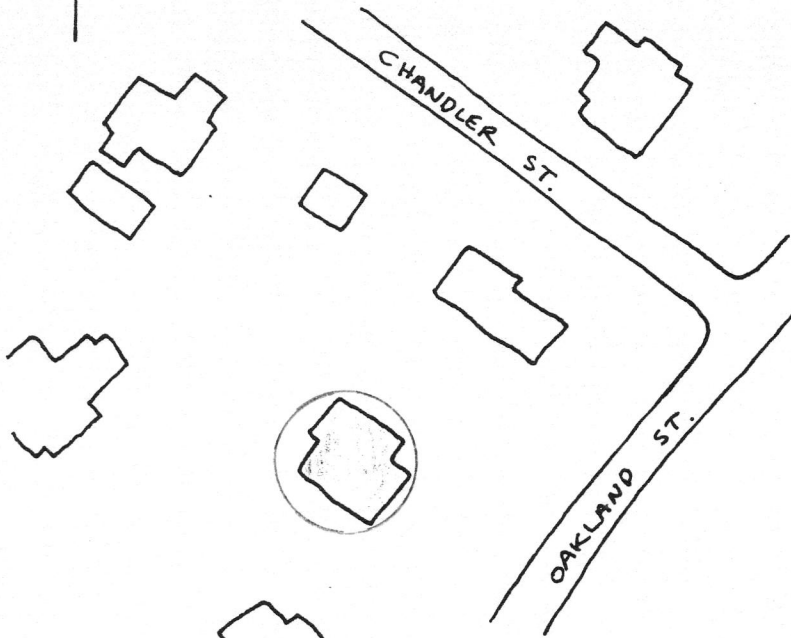
Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 0.5 acre (23000 ft.²)

Setting Street of substantial late nineteenth century residences on ample lots; this lot has two specimen beech trees.

cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

Typical of the substantial houses built on Meriam Hill in the late nineteenth century, but with less finish preserved, this house is noteworthy for its round turret with bell-shaped roof, and its exposed stone chimney deep within a recess below an overhanging gable. Random ashlar in place of the usual fieldstone is used for the foundation of the house and the base of the front and side porches. The side porch is a broad semicircle reiterating the shape of the tower it surrounds.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The house was built by Edmund Kingsland Houghton in 1888. ~~Houghton worked for George Emery's wholesale drug company in Chelsea.~~

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 309. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Lexington Minute Man, October 1, 1886.

1889 atlas

1906 atlas

1887 Directory

1894 Directory

1899 Directory

1906 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
16 OAKLAND ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

H

371

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This house was one of a handful of dwellings constructed on Meriam Hill in 1887 on lots that were sold by D. W. Muzzey (see also 14, 20, 23 & 25 Oakland Street). On July 15, 1887 the *Lexington Minute-man* reported that "Mr. Ellis, with his steam drill, is rapidly getting the better of a tough job digging the cellar for the house which Dr. Houghton is to build on Oakland street. It is quite interesting to see the machine at work. A great deal of blasting is required in the digging of the cellars on this street, but the owners can be sure they have a solid foundation when once completed".

The 1900 Census records list Edmund K. Houghton's occupation as lumber dealer. (It is not clear why the newspaper refers to him as "Dr.") In 1900 the Houghton household consisted of Edmund, his wife Flora, daughter Marjory, son Randall and sister-in-law Ellen Brown. By 1902 Edmund is no longer listed as living here and appears to have moved out of town (he is living in Ausable, New York in 1920).

In 1910 Flora Houghton is living here with her son-in-law, architect William R. Greeley who had married her daughter Marjory, son Randall and her sister. Flora Houghton and Ellen Brown were still living here in 1942.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, June 3, 1887; July 15, 1887; July 22, 1887.
Sanborn Insurance Maps, Lexington, various dates.
U.S. Census Records, 1900-1930.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
June 2009